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Acquisition of Oregon and the Long Suppressed Evidence about Marcus Whitman. In two volumes. By Principal WILLIAM I. MARSHALL of Chicago. (Seattle: Lowman and Hanford Company. 1911. Pp. 450; 368.)

THE publication of Marshall's *Acquisition of Oregon* marks an epoch in the Whitman controversy and brings to culmination the available evidence upon each side of the question: "Did Marcus Whitman save Oregon?" Students of Pacific northwest history are familiar with the discussions upon this mooted point extending over a period of twenty-five years and closing only with the death of the two principal participants—Myron Eells in 1906 and William I. Marshall in 1907. By noteworthy coincidence each of these writers left an unpublished work summing up his side of the controversy. In Eells's *Marcus Whitman, Pathfinder and Patriot* (Seattle, Harriman, 1909) was published the ablest defense of the pro-Whitman side. The work under review sets forth more fully and emphatically than any previous work the negative side.

To the preparation of this work the author devoted the leisure hours of a lifetime. As a lecturer upon topics relating to the West, Mr. Marshall became interested in Whitman in 1877. Believing with Dr. Mowry, who first told him the story, that Whitman was influential in saving Oregon to the Union, he journeyed to Oregon in 1882, hoping to find conclusive evidence which would justify him in proclaiming Whitman as a great, neglected patriot. Failing here as in the East to find such evidence, he began to doubt the correctness of the claim made for Whitman. In 1887, he made a careful examination of the extensive correspondence between Whitman and his associates and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. He here found, in the archives of the American Board, evidence which convinced him that Whitman's journey to the states in 1842-1843 was purely on missionary business and that as a man Whitman had been greatly overrated. He became further convinced that this evidence had been purposely kept in the background and that a definite effort was being made to extend a belief in the indebtedness of the United States to Whitman and the members of the Oregon Mission of the American Board. As a school-principal Mr. Marshall began an active campaign to secure a revision of history textbooks that would remove from them the extravagant claims there made for Whitman. Antagonized by parties personally interested in the glorification of Whitman and aroused by the apathy of certain historical writers and publishers, he maintained a diligent search for all possible evidence bearing upon the question. As a result of exhaustive research and unflagging zeal, he completed shortly before his death the present work aiming to prove the unimportance of Whitman's career in respect to influence upon the political destiny of Oregon.

As to scope, the *Acquisition of Oregon* covers the time from the

earliest discoveries down to the treaty of 1846. Special attention, however, is given to the period of joint occupation. An informing chapter is devoted to the development of the first transcontinental wagon-road, revealing a most intimate familiarity with the geography of the Rocky Mountains but omitting a much needed map. Perhaps the most valuable chapter of the book is the one which relates to the attitude, information, and action of the United States government in regard to the Old Oregon Territory. Of particular interest to the special student are the documentary sources reproduced, many of them difficult of access and a considerable number, notably letters of Marcus Whitman, never before published.

As to style, the work is marred by a polemical tone which detracts from the weight which the author's knowledge and essential fairness should carry. Foot-notes are lacking but textual citations are abundant. An unusually full index is provided.

The following typographical errors are to be noted: in volume I., page 70, *Missionary Herald* is made to read *Missouri Herald*—a mistake repeated on page 80. The name of Professor Schafer, volume I., page 97, appears as "Shafer". The first paragraph of the introduction calls for an appendix which has been omitted without explanatory footnote.

The posthumous publication of this work is due to Mr. Clarence B. Bagley of Seattle. Although belated until the controversy has in the main subsided, it constitutes a most important addition to the Whitman literature. The author has probably underestimated the character of Whitman but he has furnished ample proof of the contention that Whitman did not save Oregon.

CHARLES W. SMITH.

A Journey from Prince of Wales's Fort in Hudson's Bay to the Northern Ocean, in the Years 1769, 1770, 1771, and 1772. By SAMUEL HEARNE. New edition, with introduction, notes, and illustrations, by J. B. TYRRELL, M.A. (Toronto: The Champlain Society. 1911. Pp. xiv, 437.)

It is gratifying to record the reproduction of this almost classic work of travel in such a creditable form, with its welcome illustrative wealth of additional maps, notes, and photogravures.

A Hudson Bay factor, Hearne's journey, in part commercial, was ordered by that company to ascertain the resources of the country, its facilities for trade, the extent of copper deposits, and the possibility of a northwest passage. Two failures, herein recorded, only urged Hearne to his final success.

The third time, starting December 7, 1770, from Fort Prince of Wales, with Chipewyans under Chief Matonabee, the party was soon in an unknown country. Living precariously on game, they were soon